

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAL-01 EB-07 OES-06 FEA-01

ACDA-07 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 201151Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8500

INFO USUN NEW YORK 2064

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 13900

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAG: PLOS, IN

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA: INDIAN ASSESSMENT

REF: STATE 230393

1. ON EVE OF HIS RETURN TO DELHI, LAWMIN GOKHALE GAVE INTERVIEW SEPTEMBER 19 TO INDIAN SAMACHAR CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK ASSESSING LOS CONFERENCE. ACCORDING TO STORY IN SEPTEMBER 20 DELHI PRESS, GOKHALE URGED USG TO PUT FORWARD DETAILED PLANS FOR FINANCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE TO ENTERPRISE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. UNLESS LDC'S KNEW NATURE OF USG ASSISTANCE ENVISAGED, THEY COULD NOT REACH A DECISION ON US PROPOSAL. GOKHALE SAID THE JULY-SEPTEMBER SESSION HAD FOLLOWED TOO QUICKLY AFTER THE MARCH-MAY SESSION AND AS A RESULT NOTHING CONCRETE HAD EMERGED FROM THE MEETING, BUT HE THOUGHT IT WAS NOW TIME TO FIX A "DEADLINE" FOR A TREATY.

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2 GOKHALE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THERE HAD NOT BEEN A FAVORABLE

REACTION TO INDIA'S EFFORTS TO REOPEN THE ARCHIPELAGO ISSUE, INDIA WOULD TRY AGAIN AT THE NEXT SESSION. THE ISSUE OF "SURPLUS" WAS CENTRAL, HE SAID, TO A RESOLUTION OF THE SUBSTAND OF LAND-LOCKED COUNTRIES' CLAIMS ON THE RESOURCES OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE AND THIS HAD TO BE FURTHER DEFINED.

3. GOKHALE SAID THERE HAD BEEN "AGREEMENT GENERALLY" THAT A "CONSENT" REGIME WAS NECESSARY FOR ECONOMIC ZONE RESEARCH WHETHER FUNDAMENTAL OR APPLIED. HE SAID THERE HAD ALSO BEEN AGREEMENT ON LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD ENABLE INDIA TO PROTECT OIL INSTALLATIONS IN THE BOMBAY HIGH BY DESIGNATING THE AREA AS "RESERVED".

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY ASSUMES LOS DELEGATION WILL HAVE CONVEYED USG ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS OF PAST SESSION TO JAGOTA BEFORE HIS RETURN, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE WHICH MIGHT SPECIFICALLY BE USED WITH JAGOTA IN EMBASSY CONVERSATIONS ON HIS RETURN. SAXBE

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